

December, 2005

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City Officials

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Kevin Fry

Ron Nichols

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Chief of Police

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The Burlingame Buzz

City Projects

The City currently has two projects we will be starting in the near future.

The first is the construction phase of a utility audit. The audit has been completed and the City Council approved the recommended improvements. These improvements include lighting, exit light, and thermostat improvements in several buildings. The other component is the replacement of all electric and water meters in the sys-

tem. The gas meters will be retrofitted with a new reader. This new system will allow for all meter to be read in about 4 to 6 hours instead of the 40 to 80 hours it currently takes. This will allow staff to process the meter readings quicker and allow for less time to be spent on this task.

The other project is the Phase 1 water improvements. This project includes a new 300,000 gallon water tower and new



The City will begin replacing all water and electric meters on December 15th.

lines on the east and north sides of town. The contracts have been signed and we hope for construction to begin soon.

December Meetings

- December 5—City Council @ 7:00pm
- December 14—Planning Commission @ 7:00pm
- December 19—No City Council Meeting
- December 26—City Offices Closed
- December 29—City Council @ 7:00pm

Administrator's Activities

We've had many things going on around town lately. Many of you have probably seen crews installing a new alley approach in the downtown area and installing new street lights downtown. We have also been working on our annual gas leak survey.

We still have a lot to accomplish before the end of the year. We have several streets that will be re-graded with new ditches to help drainage and improve the driving surface. We will begin trimming trees around the power lines in the next couple of weeks. We

want to avoid some of the problems we encountered in January.

As always, if you have any issues that you would like to discuss, stop in at City Hall and we would be happy to assist you.

City of Burlingame

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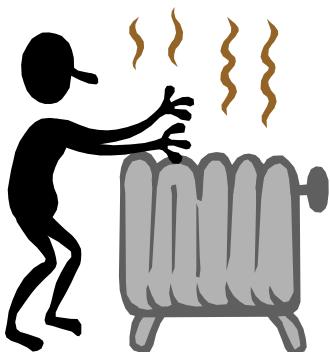
We're on the Web! Come check us out.

www.burlingameks.gov

Keep updated on city activities by signing up for this newsletter electronically by sending an e-mail to khassler@burlingameks.gov or go to the city web site at www.burlingameks.gov to sign up for this newsletter or other e-mail notifications sent out by the City to keep everyone informed.

The City has formed a Beautification Committee to look at incentive programs and ideas into making Burlingame a nicer place to live and work. If you have any suggestions, please stop by City Hall and talk with Kurt, the City Administrator, or e-mail him at khassler@burlingameks.gov.

Where Rail Crosses Trail.



Natural Gas Prices

As many of you have heard or seen on your recent bills the price of natural gas has increased significantly over the past couple of years and especially over the past couple of months. This summer bills were calculated around \$10 per unit. We have seen prices continue to increase and are now in the range of about \$14 per unit. It will be very difficult for many of our customers to pay these prices and we understand that. Your gas bill is determined based on the price we pay plus \$1.55 per unit. The \$1.55 per unit is used to pay for manpower, equipment, and materials to maintain the system. The remaining portion of your gas bill is used to pay the bill we receive each month

to pay for the actual gas used.

We have been told by our sources to expect gas prices to rise between 50% to 100% over the summer prices of about \$10 per unit. We are recommending to budget accordingly for your gas bill this winter. We realize this will be very difficult for many people and staff will continue to work with people on bill payment plans.

Some things you can do to help minimize your gas bill.

- Seal leaks around doors, windows, and other openings with caulk or weather-stripping.
- Reduce the temperature inside your home by 10 percent while you are at work or sleeping. This can provide a 10% reduction in your heating bill. If you do not have one already, install a programmable thermostat.
- Change or clean furnace filters once a month.
- Close vents and doors in unused rooms.
- Open draperies and blinds during sunny days to take advantage of warm sunshine. Close them at night to insulate against cold air.
- Insulate water heaters and set your unit's thermostat at 120 degrees.